

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 PA-02

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1725

USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 2531

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, EG, IS

SUBJ: WEST BANK PRESS REACTION: CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

1. ALL THREE DAILIES OF SEPT 13 SEE DOWNTURN IN HOPES FOR CAMP DAVID SUCCESS. MODERATE AL QUDS ENTITLES ITS EDITORIAL "THE LAST RESCUE EFFORT" AND PALESTINIAN NATIONALIST ASHA'B HEADS THEIRS "THE MIRACLE WILL NOT OCCUR." PRO-PLO AL FAJR COMMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN IRAN ATTACKING THE US AND "REACTIONARY GENERALS."

2. AL QUDS HEADLINES DECLARE "PEACE TALKS STUMBLE; CONFERENCE SPOKESMAN ADMITS CARTER'S FAILURE IN EXTRACTING CONCESSIONS FROM BEGIN." THE ACCOMPANYING FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL PERCEIVES EVIDENCE OF "CRISIS" AT CAMP DAVID BECAUSE "SADAT THREATENED TO WITHDRAW" AND BEGIN ALTERED HIS PLANS TO ATTEND A CONCERT IN WASHINGTON ONLY "AFTER A REQUEST FROM PRESIDENT CARTER." THE RESULTING "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN" WILL LEAD AT BEST TO "AN UNCLASSIFIED

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AGREEMENT TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS OR PROMISES OF CONTINUATION OF AMERICAN EFFORTS...OR SOME SORT OF ARRANGEMENT...SO THAT FAILURE WILL NOT APPEAR TOTAL." SUCH RESULTS WILL BE "ONLY COSMETICS FOR FAILURE," ACCORDING TO AL QUDS. THE WRITER CONCLUDES THAT "THE LEAST THAT CARTER CAN DO IS UNCOVER THE DETAILS (OF THE TALKS), PARTICULARLY TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC, THUS EXPOSING THOSE WHO STAND IN THE WAY OF REALIZING PEACE...."

3. "CAMP DAVID SUMMIT AWAITING THE MERCY BULLET" READS ASHA'B'S RED BANNER HEADLINE. THE PAPER QUOTES "EGYPTIAN SOURCES" THAT "HOPES FOR SUCCESS OF SUMMIT ARE NON-EXISTENT WITHOUT SUDDEN DEVELOPMENTS," BUT ALSO CARRIES AN AFP STORY QUOTING "INFORMED SOURCES" THAT "LEGAL EXPERTS ARE STUDYING PLANS TO FORMULATE DECISIONS ON A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES." IN ITS EDITORIAL, "THE MIRACLE WILL NOT OCCUR," THE PAPER VIEWS SADAT'S THREAT TO WITHDRAW AS EXACERBATING THE "CRIME...OF SHOWING A (FALSE) POSSIBILITY OF A MIRACLE FOR SAVING THE SUMMIT FROM INEVITABLE FAILURE."

4. AL FAJR'S HEADLINES CALL THE POSSIBILITIES OF FAILURE "AUGMENTED" AND THOSE OF SUCCESS "DECREASING." WIRE SERVICE STORIES SAY THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS RECEIVED THE EGYPTIAN REPLY TO HIS SUGGESTIONS ON THE WEST BANK BUT OFFER NO DETAILS. OTHER LESS FEATURED ARTICLES REPORT "SYRIA ACCUSES ALL PARTIES OF SUMMIT OF CONSPIRING AGAINST SYRIA, THE PLO AND THE SOVIET UNION" AND "KISSINGER AND NIXON OPTIMISTIC ON CAMP DAVID." AL FAJR'S EDITORIAL ON THE SITUATION IN IRAN TAKES A "PROGRESSIVE" LINE DISCUSSING THE LINKS BETWEEN AMERICAN INTEREST IN OIL AND ITS SUPPORT OF THE "REACTIONARY" REGIME IN IRAN.
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